

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for discrete distribution of granules, ~~such as seed, fertiliser or the like~~ comprising:

a path forming device having an inlet ~~[[6]]~~ adapted to be associated with a granules container of an agricultural machine, ~~[[and]]~~ an outlet ~~[[7]]~~ adapted to be associated with a coulter of the agricultural machine, ~~characterised in that said path (25) is defined by at least one wall extending on either sides of and along at least a part of the extension of said path,~~ and a first distributing member within a housing,

wherein a path for the granules is formed by said first distributing member and an inside of said housing, the path including downwardly sloping surfaces extending from at least one of (a) the inside of said housing and (b) a center of said first distributing member, and

wherein said path is formed about a substantially vertical axis.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein ~~either~~ one of said housing and said first

distributing member ~~are~~ is rotatably arranged ~~in relation to one another.~~

4. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein both of said housing and said first distributing member are rotatably arranged ~~in relation to one another.~~

5. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said housing and said first distributing member are rotatably arranged in opposite directions.

6. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said housing and said first distributing member are arranged to be rotatable in the same direction, ~~however with~~ at different speeds.

7. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein ~~either one~~ one of said housing and said first distributing member ~~are~~ is arranged in a fixed relationship, and ~~are~~ is adapted to be associated with a vibration device.

8. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a guide member ~~[[is]]~~ arranged to retain the granules in the path, at least in proximity to the outlet.

9. (original) An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the guide member covers substantially the whole path.

10. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein ~~at least the~~ a surface of ~~either of or both of~~

~~the~~ at least one of said first distributing member and the housing is made of a flexible material.

11. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising at least one further distributing member ~~is provided~~ downstream ~~the~~ of said first distributing member and in the ~~same~~ housing.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said further distributing member is arranged such that during use, the path of said first distributing member and a path of said further distributing member are at least partly in the same horizontal plane.

14. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said further distributing member is arranged such that [[the]] a path thereof is in a plane lower than ~~that~~ the path of said first distributing member.

15. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the first distributing member and the further distributing member are associated with a power source in such a way that they have substantially the same speed.

16. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the first distributing member and the further distributing member are associated with a power source in such a way that the further distributing member has a higher speed than the first distributing member.

17. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said first distributing member is helically shaped with constant pitch.

18. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said first distributing member is helically shaped with a pitch increasing in the direction of flow.

19. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said housing is at least partly tubular.

20. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said housing is at least partly conical in the direction of flow.

21. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein said housing is at least partly spherical.

22. (currently amended) ~~An apparatus according to claim 17~~ An apparatus for discrete distribution of granules, comprising:

a path forming device having an inlet adapted to be associated with a granules container of an agricultural machine, and an outlet adapted to be associated with a coulter of the agricultural machine,

wherein a path formed by said path forming device is defined by at least one wall extending on at least one side of and along at least a part of the extension of said path, wherein said path is formed about a substantially vertical axis, and wherein said path is formed by a helical tube.

23. (original) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the helical tube forms at least a part of a cone.

24. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein at least a portion of said helical tube has substantially a V-shaped cross-section, forming said path.

25. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least a part of said ~~wall has~~ path is bounded by a friction enhancing surface.

26. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least a part of said ~~wall has~~ path is bounded by a friction reducing surface.

27. (currently amended) An apparatus ~~for discrete distribution of granules, such as seed, fertiliser or the like, comprising a housing, at least one inlet member of said housing adapted to be associated with a granules container for of an agricultural machine, at least one outlet member of said housing adapted to be associated with a coulter of the agricultural machine, and a distributing member having an annular periphery and a central axis~~ according to claim 1, wherein said first distributing member during use has at partly has, from a central axis thereof, a downward sloping surface from said central axis towards an inside wall of the housing, characterised in that at least one further distributing member is arranged downstream the first distributing member.

28. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[27]] 11, wherein both of said first distributing member and said further distributing member are rotatably arranged, and wherein said ~~second~~ further distributing member has a higher peripheral velocity than that of the first distributing member.

29. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[27]] 28, wherein said first distributing member has a first peripheral circular cross-section and, wherein said ~~second~~ further distributing member has a second peripheral circular cross-section, said second cross-section having a larger diameter than that of said first cross-section.

30. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim [[27]] 28, wherein said first distributing member has a first peripheral circular cross-section and, wherein said ~~second~~ further distributing member has a second peripheral circular cross-section, said first cross-section and said second cross-section being substantially the same.

31. (currently amended) Agricultural machine comprising a container for granules, ~~such as seed, fertiliser or the like,~~ and a coulter for placing granules at a predetermined depth in the soil, ~~characterised in that it~~ wherein the machine comprises an apparatus according to claim 1, said apparatus being associated with the container and with the coulter.